

STATEMENT OF MILO C. MASON
Before the Subcommittee on Energy and Resources
Committee on Government Reform
United States House of Representatives
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My name is Milo Mason. I serve as an attorney-advisor in the Branch of Petroleum Resources, Division of Mineral Resources, Office of the Solicitor at the Department of the Interior. I grew up in Robinson, Illinois. I graduated from Robinson High School, Class of 1969. I have a Bachelor's degree in government and philosophy (college scholar) from Cornell University, a Master's degree in English from Stanford University, and a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School.

I joined the Solicitor's Office as a law clerk in the Solicitor's Northeast Regional Office during my second year of law school. After graduating from law school in 1979, I came to the Washington, D.C., Solicitor's Office in October of 1979 as an Honors Program staff attorney. I rotated and worked in every Division of the Solicitor's Office before joining what was then the Division of Energy and Resources in April of 1981 as an attorney in the Branch of Offshore Minerals and International Law. In around May of 1983, I was asked to join the Division of Surface Mining's Litigation Branch to lead the defense of the Department's permanent surface coal mining regulations and state program delegations. In June of 1990, I returned to the Division of Energy and Resources as the Assistant Solicitor for Offshore Minerals. I served in that capacity until August of 1995, at which time a reorganization of the Office occurred combining the Division of Surface Mining with portions of the Division of Energy and Resources. In the newly created Division of Mineral Resources, I was asked by management to apply for the position of Assistant Solicitor for Royalty and Offshore Minerals but I chose not to apply, choosing instead to return to lawyering as a staff attorney for the Minerals Management Service with an alternative work schedule. In May of this year, in connection with another reorganization, I began serving in the position I currently hold.

I have no substantive prepared statement, and would be glad to answer any questions that the members of the Subcommittee may have.